

Meeting of May 22, 2017

May Employees of the Month Honored

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors recognized three employees of the month for May.

Resolutions of appreciation were presented to:

- Vicky Korte, Coach Operator
- Tri Tran, Maintenance
- Michelle Paloma, Administration

OCTA Rodeo Team Honored for Achievements at International Event

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Rodeo Team was recognized for their third place honor in the International Bus Rodeo, which took place May 5-9 in Reno, Nev.

Team members honored included the Maintenance team of Patrick Courchaine, Ray Consiglio and Chris Jordan. Coach Operator Darvy Traylor, and OCTA's team coaches Frank Amaran and Leonard Cruz also were honored. Traylor was also recognized for his third-place honor in the 40-foot bus operator section.

OC Bus 360° Showing Positive Results

The board received an update on the ongoing OC Bus 360° effort to reposition the bus system by responding to changing market conditions. While ridership nationwide and regionally is declining sharply, OC Bus 360° is showing positive signs of reversing ridership declines in areas where improvements have been made to the bus system.

Overall, the OC Bus system experienced a 2.9 percent ridership decline compared to the year before. But in areas where route improvements were made, there was a 10.4 percent increase in ridership compared to the same time last year.

Improving productivity and bus boarding is now a key goal of OC Bus 360°, as well as route changes, testing of new technologies and continuing to look for ways to reduce costs overall.

OC Streetcar Reaches Another Milestone

The Board of Directors approved a request to submit an application to the Federal Transit Administration for a full funding grant agreement for the OC Streetcar project. The grant agreement would secure \$148.9 million through the Capital Investment Grant Program and would pay for nearly half of the approximately \$299.3 million project.

The application for the full funding grant agreement will be submitted by the end of May and a decision from the FTA, following a 30-day Congressional review, is expected by December.

The OC Streetcar, which will run on a 4.1-mile route through Santa Ana and Garden Grove, is scheduled to begin construction in mid 2018 and to begin operations in late 2020.